

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-7 and add new claims 8-19.

8. A method for actuating a wheel brake assembly, in particular an electromechanical wheel brake assembly, comprising the steps of (a) initially actuating the brake assembly in the tightening direction to establish a quasi-static terminal braking state, then (b) actuating the wheel brake assembly (10) for a brief period of time in the release direction, and then (c) again actuating the brake assembly in the tightening direction, said brief period of time of the actuation in the release direction being selected to be so short that the braking force is reduced, if at all, only imperceptibly.

9. A method for actuating a mechanical system involving friction and having a spring elasticity to increase a force exerted by the system beyond a force attainable in a quasi-steady state, the method comprising the steps of (a) actuating the system for a brief period of time in the release direction and then (b) tightened again, the period of time of the actuation in the release direction being selected to be so short that the force exerted is reduced, if at all, only imperceptibly.

10. The method of claim 8 further comprising repeating steps (b) and (c).

11. The method of claim 9 further comprising repeating steps (b) and (c).

12. The method of claim 10, wherein steps (b) and (c) are repeated after a predetermined period of time after the onset of the re-tightening.

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cont

13. The method of claim 11, wherein steps (b) and (c) are repeated after a predetermined period of time after the onset of the re-tightening.

14. The method of claim 10, wherein steps (b) and (c) are repeated when the wheel brake assembly (10) comes to a stop upon re-tightening.

15. The method of claim 11, wherein steps (b) and (c) are repeated when the system (10) comes to a stop upon re-tightening.

16. The method of claim 10, wherein number of repetitions of steps (b) and (c) is limited.

17. The method of claim 11, wherein number of repetitions of steps (b) and (c) is limited.

18. The method of claim 8 wherein said brief period of time during which the wheel brake assembly (10) is actuated in the release direction is defined by a travel distance by which an actuating element of the wheel brake assembly (10) is moved in the release direction.

19. The method of claim 9 wherein said brief period of time during which the system (10) is actuated in the release direction is defined by a travel distance by which an actuating element of the system (10) is moved in the release direction.